

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10954 161155Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6111

S E C R E T CAIRO 10954

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, IR, SHA

SUBJECT: N'KOMO VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLELE FROM AMBASSADOR

REF: (A) STATE 202859 (RPTG TEHRAN 8278) (B) STATE 202828
(RPTG JIDDA 5581)

1. N'DLOVU CAME IN AUGUST 16 FOLLOWING REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT HIM OVER WEEKEND. HE SAID HE AND N'KOMO HAD PLANNED TO DEPART FOR TEHRAN AUGUST 15 BUT THAT FAILURE OF IRANIAN EMBASSY TO ISSUE VISAS HAD FORCED THEM TO POSTPONE DEPARTURE. N'KOMO AND HE HAD GONE TO IRANIAN EMBASSY AUGUST 11 AND WERE TOLD THAT SINCE THEY CARRY BRITISH PASSPORTS, NO VISA WAS REQUIRED. HOWEVER, IRANIAN AIR HAD INSISTED VISAS WERE REQUIRED BECAUSE THEY HAVE BRITISH-C PASSPORTS (PRESUMABLY COMMONWEALTH). N'DLOVU HAD GONE BACK TO IRANIAN CONSUL WHO HAD THEN REQUESTED A LETTER FROM N'KOMO STATING PURPOSE OF TRIP. LETTER WAS DULY WRITTEN BUT IRANIAN EMBASSY THEN SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR VISAS FROM TEHRAN. IT HAD HOPED TO HAVE A REPLY BY SUNDAY, BUT NONE WAS FORTHCOMING, THEREFORE DEPARTURE WAS DELAYED.

2. POLCONS PASSED TEHRAN MESSAGE CONCERNING QUERY FROM IMPERIAL COURT AND N'DLOVU REQUESTED THAT I CALL IRANIAN AMBASSADOR BAHRAMY IN EFFORT TO HAVE VISAS ISSUED TODAY. I DID SO THIS MORNING, INFORMING BAHRAMY OF IMPERIAL COURT'S

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QUERIES (REF B). HE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY SEND ANOTHER

MESSAGE TO TEHRAN. IF VISAS OBTAINED, N'KOMO PLANS TO TAKE
IRAN AIR FLIGHT TODAY (AUGUST 16), DEPARTING AT 1800 LOCAL.

3. SAUDI REQUEST THAT N'KOMO DELAY VISIT UNTIL AFTER
OCTOBER 2 (REF A) PASSED TO N'DLOVU AUGUST 16. HE MADE NO
COMMENT.

4. REQUEST DEPT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO TEHRAN AND JIDDA.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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